

## PREFACE

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The registration of 686 men at the Seventeenth Annual Purdue Road School, January 19-23, 1931, exceeded all previous attendance records by approximately 100. Credit for this increase in attendance is due largely to the interest and enthusiastic assistance rendered by the following co-operating groups: The Indiana State Highway Commission, the Indiana County Highway Superintendents' Association, the Indiana County Surveyors' and County Engineers' Association, and the Highway Materials and Equipment Association. This annual Road School is under the direction of the Engineering Extension Department with the School of Civil Engineering in direct charge.

The following classified registration list shows the attendance of the various groups during the past four years:

	1928	1929	1930	1931
State Highway Officials.....	64	61	72	84
County Highway Superintendents...	81	73	77	86
Assistant County Highway Superintendents .....	19	24	16	40
County Surveyors.....	73	73	70	81
Deputy County Surveyors.....	7	6	13	57
County Commissioners.....	25	23	39	57
City Officials.....	50	52	49	61
Contractors .....	26	23	48	37
Materials and Equipment Men.....	132	131	139	163
Miscellaneous .....	63	49	67	67
Total .....	540	515	590	686

It will be noted that most of the groups show a considerable increase over previous years. The State Highway Officials' groups was more largely represented this year than at any previous time. There was also a larger percentage of County Highway Superintendents and County Surveyors in attendance this year than at any previous school. The increase in the Materials and Equipment Men's group is no doubt due to the very fine exhibit of material and equipment held in connection with the School.

County Highway Superintendents and Surveyors are compelled to attend this School by legislative enactment, and their expenses are paid by their respective counties. Each year, however, there are some absentees among these two groups because chiefly of illness and other unavoidable factors pre-

venting their attendance. Only six County Highway Superintendents were missing this year. These absentees were from the following counties:

Brown, Crawford, Jennings, LaGrange, Lake, and Randolph.

From the County Surveyors' group eleven men were missing from the following counties:

Brown, Hancock, Martin, Noble,\* Owen, Parke, Pike, Scott, Switzerland, Vermillion, and White.

As a result of the election last fall a total of 57 new County Surveyors among the 92 counties in Indiana took office on January 1. This represents a turnover of 62 per cent, which is exceptionally high. There were practically no changes in the County Highway Superintendents' offices as these officials are appointed for a four-year term ending January 1, 1934.

Four half days were devoted to separate sessions for each of the following groups: County Highway Superintendents, County Surveyors, and State Highway Maintenance Men. A separate session for City Officials was held on Thursday morning. These separate sessions are quite popular with the men attending as they permit a freer and more complete discussion of those problems which are of peculiar interest to the particular groups.

General program sessions were scheduled for four half days during the week, at which times subjects of general interest were presented by prominent road men from other states as well as by a few of our more outstanding local officials. These general sessions tend to keep the local officials more in touch with the broader phases of the highway problem and with the newer developments in materials, equipment, methods, etc.

A highly successful exhibit was sponsored by the Highway Materials and Equipment Association in the Purdue Armory. About 40 exhibitors participated. This was open for inspection on Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon and evening. These exhibits afford a splendid opportunity for road and street officials to inspect and compare various types of materials and equipment in a very advantageous way. This exhibit was opened on Tuesday evening with a barbecue, the compliments of the above-named Association.

A dinner-smoker on Monday evening in the Fowler Hotel was attended by 160 men. Dean A. A. Potter presided as toastmaster and the principal address was by Professor John L. Bray, of the School of Chemical Engineering.

The Annual Banquet on Thursday evening in the Memorial Union Building on the Campus was attended by approximately 400 men. This was the climax of the week's program. Professor Ben H. Petty presided as toastmaster; and addresses were made by David E. Ross, President, Board of Trustees, Purdue University, by A. J. Wedeking, Chairman, Indiana

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\* This county was represented all week by the Deputy County Surveyor.

State Highway Commission, and by Dr. Allen D. Albert, Assistant to the President, Chicago World's Fair Centennial Association.

The officers of the various co-operating associations for the year of 1931 are as follows:

**County Highway Superintendents' Association**

Fred Hubbell, Angola.....President  
H. A. Firestone, Goshen.....Vice-President  
Charles Mann, Indianapolis.....Secretary-Treasurer

**County Surveyors' and County Engineers' Association**

John L. Stewart, Brookville.....President  
Don Gilbert, Angola.....Vice-President  
J. W. Botset, Plymouth.....Secretary-Treasurer

**Highway Materials and Equipment Association**

V. E. Trimble, Indianapolis.....President  
C. Dana Ward, Indianapolis.....Vice-President  
Dorsey Allison, Indianapolis.....Treasurer  
C. A. Wilson, Indianapolis.....Secretary  
(345 E. South Street)  
Harry S. Marshall, Indianapolis.....Director  
W. K. O'Neill, Seymour.....Director  
Wm. Holland, Indianapolis.....Director  
J. P. Johnson, Indianapolis.....Director

Since the printing of last year's Proceedings we have received a gift of \$150 from the Highway Materials and Equipment Association to help defray the expense of the Road School and a contribution of \$420 from the County Highway Superintendents' and the County Surveyors' Associations towards the publication cost of the Proceedings.

B. H. P.

Lafayette, Indiana.  
April, 1931.